



## ABOUT WARD 4

*Tucson's Ward 4 is represented by Council Member Shirley C. Scott. Shirley has represented the Ward since 1995 and is honored to continue serving the constituents of Ward 4 and the City of Tucson.*

## In the Know

### M&C Salary

Today is the last day that the City of Tucson will be accepting applications for the Citizens' Commission on Public Service and Compensation, a panel that reviews and recommends appropriate salaries for the Mayor and City Council. Seven commission members are appointed by the City Manager and are selected to provide maximum representation from among Tucson's diverse economic, environmental, racial, ethnic, and cultural groups. Experience or expertise in such areas as government, personnel management, or public administration is preferred but not required. Political affiliation is not a consideration.

Here are the qualifications for commission members:

- \* You must be a registered voter living within Tucson city limits.
- \* You be an employee of the City of Tucson, nor a parent, sibling, spouse, child, or dependent relative of an officer or employee of the City.
- \* You must serve the two-month appointment.

The seven members must be appointed and in office by Jan. 15, 2015. They will meet and provide a recommendation to the City Clerk's Office by March 15, 2015. The City Clerk must post the report for 30 days subsequent to the Commission's filing. The Commission's salary adjustment recommendations may be placed on the Nov. 3, 2015 election ballot.

The deadline to apply or nominate someone is Friday, December 19, 2014 by 5 p.m. You can submit a letter of interest by mail or email to:

City Manager's Office  
 Attn: Monica Perez  
 City Hall, 10th Floor West  
 P.O. Box 27210  
 Tucson, AZ 85726-7210  
 E-mail: [monica.perez@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:monica.perez@tucsonaz.gov)



## WARD 4 STAFF

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## Coffee W/A Cop

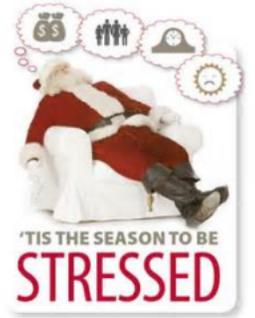
Operations Division East has scheduled its first Coffee with a Cop event that took place last Wednesday on Dec. 17th. There were no speeches, no agendas, just a quiet morning with the men and women who serve your area. It was quite lovely!

If you were unable to make this event, no worries, there will be more events like this in the upcoming year. Be sure to check [Nextdoor.com](http://Nextdoor.com), neighborhood associations, neighborhood watch groups, and crime-free multi housing members for information. Of course Ward 4 will notify you as soon as we hear of the next event. If you haven't "like" us on facebook, make sure to do so by clicking here [bit.ly/ward4fb](http://bit.ly/ward4fb). You can get more up to date info and get postings on events like this one. See you at the next event!



## Holiday Blues

You may love the holidays, but it can also bring a lot of unwanted stress and even depression. More demands, you must get this gift, more parties than ever you must attend, and guest who may stay longer than you like. It can all add up without you even realizing it. Don't be in despair; the Mayo Clinic has put together a few tips to help prevent the holiday blues.



1. If you feel lonely or isolated, seek out community, religious or other social events. They can offer support and companionship. Volunteering your time to help others is a great way to lift your spirits and broaden your friendships.
2. The holidays don't have to be perfect or just like last year's events. As families change and grow, traditions and rituals often change as well. Choose a few to hold on to, and be open to creating new ones. Change can be a good thing.
3. Try to accept family members and friends as they are, even if they don't live up to all of your expectations. Set aside grievances until a more appropriate time for discussion. And be understanding if others get upset or distressed when something goes awry. Chances are they're feeling the effects of holiday stress and depression, too.
4. Before you go gift and food shopping, decide how much money you can afford to spend. Then stick to your budget. Don't try to buy happiness with an avalanche of gifts.

Try these alternatives:

- \* Donate to a charity in someone's name.
- \* Give homemade gifts.
- \* Start a family gift exchange.

These are only a few tips that are offered. If you would like to read the full list, visit the Mayo Clinic website at [mayoclinic.in/1wBAJMr](http://mayoclinic.in/1wBAJMr). May your holidays be merry and bright!

## A Little Extra

Earlier this fall, the U.S. Department of Education selected Mesquite as an "Exemplary High Performing School." The awards were based on each school's overall academic excellence or progress in improving student academic achievement. Mesquite Elementary will be hosting a National Blue Ribbon School award celebration including a parade that will go down Rita Road to Purple Heart Park starting at 10:45am. Congratulations to Mesquite Elementary, your hard work + dedication = great education!



## Beat Back Buffelgrass



Buffelgrass looks like this image here. Although it may look harmless, it's not. Buffelgrass is a wildfire risk. It grows in dense stands, crowds out native plants and negatively impact native wildlife species and their habitat like the desert tortoise and mule deer. That's the bad, the good is that there are organizations gathering and working together in order to fight and dig up this invasive grass. One of them is called the Southern Arizona Buffelgrass Coordination Center and the other is Tucson Clean and Beautiful. These two organizations are working hard to try and stop this buffelgrass from spreading.

On Saturday, January 24th, it is Beat Back Buffelgrass Day. The Southern Arizona Buffelgrass Coordination Center, Tucson Clean and Beautiful, and other groups are hosting buffelgrass removal events at sites all across the Tucson valley. If you're interested in joining in on this event and volunteering, visit <http://bit.ly/1ul7p8R>. If you can't make it on that day and you would still like to help beat back buffelgrass, or if you have buffelgrass in your location and would like it to be gone, then Erin Willett from Tucson Clean and Beautiful in partnership with Southern Arizona Buffelgrass Coordination Center would like to help you organize your group. There is a proper way of pulling out this grass, making sure you get all the roots. This is a great opportunity to educate everyone about this issue, so if you, a school or a group would like to take on buffelgrass, contact Erin at (520) 837-6836. To learn more about buffelgrass visit Tucson Clean and Beautiful's webpage at <http://bit.ly/1AfMHf9>.

## Tree Planting Grants

Tucson Clean & Beautiful (TCB) is a great nonprofit organization incorporated in 1985 as the flagship for community-based environmental volunteer efforts in the Tucson metro area. Programs include recycling and waste reduction, urban forestry, land stewardship, at-risk youth landscape training, and beautification.



TCB is working in cooperation with the Southern Arizona Environmental Management Society and the Arizona Native Plant Society-Tucson Chapter, and are now accepting applications from schools and programs serving youth for cash grants of up to \$500 for environmental improvements. Schools may also apply for a grant of planning assistance and up to 30 trees for a school site planting project from Trees for Tucson, a program of Tucson Clean & Beautiful.

Applications are due January 30, 2015 and may be obtained under the "Announcements" section of the Tucson Clean & Beautiful home page, [bit.ly/1qm6wlo](http://bit.ly/1qm6wlo), or if you have any questions please call (520) 837-6832.



## Houghton Road Update by MJ Dillard

### Houghton Road Corridor Open House:

As you know, we had an open house this past Monday, Dec. 8. We presented an update of the corridor, and had our Houghton Road: Broadway Boulevard to 22nd Street artists there for comments on public art concepts. We had a vigorous discussion about street lighting along Houghton.

As we discussed in the meeting, the City is rolling out a new policy on street lighting to light all major arterial roadways as they are improved. We had a very good discussion with many of you about how the City moves forward with this policy. We have taken your comments to heart and are looking into how we can better meet the many needs of the community. We will keep you updated with our progress on this as we move forward. We appreciate your interest in what we do, and we want you to know we take you seriously.

We also hope that you had a chance to meet the artists for the Houghton Road: Broadway Boulevard to 22nd Street project and share your concerns, ideas and perspectives. So often we find it hard to get input until after the art pieces are completed, and then we can't turn back.

### General Houghton Corridor Info:

We are periodically asked about development along the corridor. We are seeing new development popping up, and we are getting a lot of phone calls from potential developers. This is quite a change since the 2008 economic downturn and it appears to be increasing.

**Houghton Road: Valencia to Old Vail/Mary Ann Cleveland Way**  
The Regional Transportation Authority has secured additional bond funding, and has authorized us to move forward with this project.

The Ward 4 committee will be utilized as our public outreach advisory group for this project. If your neighborhood is in this project area and is not represented on this committee, please let us know so we can address that. We are getting lots of great items to add to our "parking lot" list for future discussion and things for our first agenda for this project.

Our goal is to start design of this segment in April 2015.

As always, we appreciate your patience, and we want to hear from you if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions.

M.J. Dillard  
City of Tucson Engineering Project Manager  
520-837-6616

## HHWP

Those who reside within 1 mile of Purple Heart Park will be receiving a postcard notifying them of an upcoming Household Hazardous Waste Collection that will be held on January 10, 2015. This event will start at 8am and go till noon. For more information please call Environmental Services at 791-3171.



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**Coming Up...****20th Annual Downtown Parade of Lights**

Sat. Dec. 20, 6:30pm-8pm, Downtown (17th Street /Stone Avenue)

The Downtown Tucson Partnership presents the 20th Annual Downtown Parade of Lights, featuring holiday-themed floats, vehicles, and entertainers. Don't miss horse-drawn carriage tours with Santa Claus! The 2014 Parade of Lights will take place in historic Armory Park neighborhood. Entry staging takes place along the north and south sides of 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th Streets from 6th Avenue to 5th Avenue.

**Old Tucson Old Time Holidays**

Dec. 12, 2014 - Jan. 01, 2015, 10am-5pm, Old Tucson Studios

Western Heritage Foundation and Casino Del Sol Resort present a holiday-themed event "Old Time Holidays" as a benefit for the Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona. Bring a donation of food and receive discounts on admission. In addition to Old Tucson's daily programming, Old Time Holidays will feature two special live shows: The Magic of Christmas, a heartwarming musical, and Mistletoe & Mayhem, a comedic spoof about saving Christmas in an old west town. Santa will be arriving by wagon (thru Dec. 23). There will be a petting zoo and special guests on selected dates. For more info call 883-0100 or visit [oldtucson.com](http://oldtucson.com).

**Zoo Lights at Reid Park Zoo**

Dec. 05, - Dec. 23, 6pm-8pm, Reid Park Zoo

Zoo Lights at Reid Park Zoo is guaranteed to put you in the winter spirit, with jingle bells, twinkling lights, falling snow, and Santa every night through December 23. Light displays, animal-theme light sculptures, and thousands of sparkling bulbs will help make Zoo Lights a part of your Tucson holiday tradition. Free cookies and hot cocoa available for \$1.00. Presented by BMO Harris Bank. Encore nights continue Dec 26th thru Dec 28th but will not feature live entertainment or visits with Santa. Animals will be off exhibit for this event. Admission: \$6 Adults, \$4 Children (2-14), Children under 2 are free.

**The Nutcracker**

Fri. Dec. 26 - Dec. 28, 7:30pm – 10:00pm, TCC Music Hall

Tucson's "The Nutcracker" is the must-see event of the holiday season! Set in the traditional Victorian era, Ballet Tucson's larger than life production of the holiday classic is like no other. Whether you are enjoying it as a family tradition or discovering it for the first time, the magic will resonate long after the curtain comes down. Colorful scenery, brilliant costumes, and wonderful dancing create an unforgettable experience for the whole family. For more information visit <http://tcc.tucsonaz.gov/tcc/full-event-calendar>.

## In the 411

Eastside Police Substation – 791-5700

9670 E. Golf Links

For additional information in regards to tickets or other departments within the Tucson Police Department log on to <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/police>

Transportation (TDOT) - 791-4259

201 N. Stone Ave. 5th Floor.

Got a question about construction, traffic, streets, graffiti removal, landscaping, stormwater, RTA or anything along these lines? Visit

<http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/transportation> to get more info.

Environmental Services - 791-3171

Information on trash, recycling, landfills, brush and bulky and even neighborhood cleanups is what you can find here. They even do Hazardous Household Waste Collections. Visit <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/es> for more info.

Tucson Water - 791-4331

310 W. Alameda St.

Have questions on billing, water conservation, water quality or general service, then call the public info line or check out <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/water>

William Clements Center - 791-5787 or 791-4730

8155 E. Poinciana

There is a lot happening here! Additional information, including calendar of events, go to <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/parksandrec/clements>

Miller-Golf Links Branch Library - 594-5355

9640 E. Golf Links Rd

Get info of scheduled events or what's currently happening at this library. Better yet go to [www.library.pima.gov/locations/golfinks](http://www.library.pima.gov/locations/golfinks)

Pima Council on Aging - 790-7262

8467 E. Broadway

This is a great place that offers programs and services to older adults and their families living in Pima County. Learn more about this great organization by going to [www.pcoa.org](http://www.pcoa.org)

Code Enforcement - 791 - 5843

310 N. Commerce Park Loop

Chapter 16 and 3 fo the City Code is what they enforce. If you suspect property or housing violations within the City give them a buzz or go online for more information visit <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/hcd/code-enforcement>

Graffiti Removal Program - 792 - 2489

If you see someone "tagging" call 911. If The graffiti is already there, then call the number above to report it. Check out <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/graffiti> for more information on removal or reporting.

